

BEFORE
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF
SOUTH CAROLINA
DOCKET NO. 91-008-G - ORDER NO. 91-882
OCTOBER 14, 1991

IN RE: South Carolina Electric &)	ORDER DENYING
Gas Company - Semi-Annual)	MOTION FOR
Review of Gas Cost Recovery)	CONTINUANCE
Procedures and Purchasing)	
Practices.)	

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (the Commission) on the Motion for Continuance of the October 24, 1991, hearing in this case by the Consumer Advocate for the State of South Carolina (the Consumer Advocate). The gravamen of the Consumer Advocate's Motion is that South Carolina Electric & Gas Company (SCE&G) purchases its gas from South Carolina Pipeline Corporation (SCPC). Because of this reasoning the Consumer Advocate states that any decision as to the prudence of purchasing of SCE&G should be postponed after SCPC's PGA review, i.e. the hearing scheduled on Docket Nos. 90-452-G and 91-11-G.

The Commission Staff, by letter dated September 19, 1991, stated that it was in agreement in principle with the Consumer Advocate's Motion but provided two conditions that the Company and the Consumer Advocate had to agree on in order to finalize the Staff's agreement with the motion.

On September 23, 1991, SCE&G filed its return to the Consumer Advocate's Motion to Continue the hearing and subsequently, on September 24, 1991, filed an amended return. The Company opposed the Consumer Advocate's Motion and stated that the continuance would serve to delay unnecessarily any proper adjustment in SCE&G's gas cost factor well beyond the first billing cycle in November 1991, when adjustments are to be effective under the established procedures by this Commission. SCE&G stated that under the Commission's procedures, and under general law, adjustments in the gas cost component can only be implemented after hearing. (See, Order No. 88-578).

After consideration of the positions of all the parties, the Commission is of the opinion that the Motion for Continuance by the Consumer Advocate must be denied. The Commission does not wish to delay unnecessarily a proper adjustment in SCE&G's gas cost factor beyond the first billing cycle in November 1991, nor does the Commission wish to make an adjustment in the gas component without the appropriate hearing.

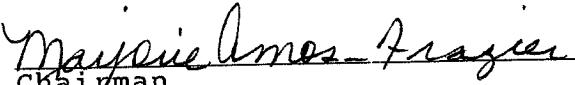
Therefore, it is ordered that:

1. The Consumer Advocate's Motion for Continuance of the hearing in this case is denied.

2. That this Order shall remain in full force and effect until further Order of the Commission.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:


Chairman

ATTEST:


Executive Director

(SEAL)